

21st September, 1962.

Dr. S. Ochoa,
N.Y. University School of Medicine,
Department of Biochemistry,
550 First Avenue,
New York 16,
N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Severo,

Last year, before I knew of your exciting results, I rashly undertook to write a review on Coding for the first volume of Advances in Nucleic Acid Research. I tried to get out of it this summer, but Davidson was insistent, and the enclosed preprint is the result. As you will see this had made it necessary for me to criticise your experiments in certain ways which I am afraid may not be justified by the time the review appears. I expect you must be tired of people suggesting you measure the composition of your polymers!

I still feel that the code is likely to be highly degenerate. I remember that when we discussed it last February you felt that perhaps less than 30 of the triplets would stand for amino acids. I wonder if you still feel the same way.

We have nothing really new to report here. People have been away on holiday and work is only just starting up again

Y

F. H. C. Crick